

Message Text

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ACTION AF-10

INFO OCT-01 ISO-00 IO-14 ARA-14 EA-12 EUR-12 NEA-10

CIAE-00 DODE-00 PM-05 H-02 INR-10 L-03 NSAE-00

PA-02 SP-02 SS-15 NSCE-00 SSO-00 ICAE-00 INRE-00

OMB-01 HA-05 AID-05 /123 W

-----121586 061023Z /21

O 060935Z SEP 78 ZFF-4

FM AMEMBASSY PRETORIA

TO SECSTATE WASHDC IMMEDIATE 2406

USMISSION USUN NEW YORK IMMEDIATE

INFO AMEMBASSY BONN

AMEMBASSY DAR ES SALAAM

AMEMBASSY GABORONE

AMEMBASSY LAGOS

AMEMBASSY LONDON

AMEMBASSY LUSAKA

AMEMBASSY MAPUTO

AMEMBASSY OTTAWA

AMEMBASSY PARIS

UNCLAS PRETORIA 5213

E.O. 11652: N/A

TAGS: PDEV, WA, SF

SUBJECT: PM ISSUES STATEMENT; BOTHA STRIKES POSITIVE NOTE

NAMIBIA:

1. THE FOLLOWING STATEMENT WAS RELEASED BY THE PRIME MINISTER'S DEPARTMENT ON SEPTEMBER 5: BEGIN TEXT:

THE MINISTER OF FOREIGN AFFAIRS HAS INFORMED THE CABINET COMPLETELY WITH REGARD TO THE DIFFERENT FACETS OF THE WALDHEIM REPORT.

AFTER THOROUGH CONSIDERATION BY THE CABINET YESTERDAY AND AFTER CONSULTATION WITH THE PRIME MINISTER, MR. VORSTER, THE GOVERNMENT'S STANDPOINT WAS CONVEYED TO MR. PIK BOTHA IN NEW YORK.

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HE WILL PUT THE SOUTH AFRICAN GOVERNMENT'S STANDPOINT AT A SUITABLE OPPORTUNITY.

THE SOUTH AFRICAN GOVERNMENT RESERVES THE RIGHT TO MAKE A FINAL ANNOUNCEMENT IN VIEW OF FURTHER DEVELOPMENTS' END TEXT.

2. SEPTEMBER 6 REPORT IN THE CITIZEN STATES THAT, AT ITS MEETING YESTERDAY,

"THE SOUTH AFRICAN CABINET TOOK A STRONG AND UNEQUIVOCAL STAND NOT TO BUDGE AN INCH OVER SOUTH WEST AFRICA" THE CABINET REPORTEDLY INSTRUCTED FOREIGN MINISTER PIK BOTHA NOT TO ACCEPT THE WALDHEIM PROPOSALS FOR A LARGE UN FORCE IN NAMIBIA NOR A SEVENMONTH POSTPONEMENT OF ELECTIONS.

3. RADIO SOUTH AFRICA REPORTED THIS MORNING THAT IT HAD INTERVIEWED FOREIGN AFFAIRS MINISTER BOTHA AND QUOTES HIM AS SAYING THAT THE WESTERN POWERS WERE "TRYING TO MEET SA OBJECTIONS TO CERTAIN ASPECTS OF DR. WALDHEIM'S PROPOSALS ON SWA." ACCORDING TO THE BROADCAST, BOTHA CONSIDERS THESE ATTEMPTS TO BE CONTINUING, BUT HE COULD NOT SAY IF THEY WOULD BE SUCCESSFUL. HE REPORTEDLY TOLD HIS INTERVIEWER THAT THE NEGOTIATING CLIMATE IS BETTER THAN WHEN HE FIRST ARRIVED IN NEW YORK AND THAT THERE APPREARED TO BE DIFFERENCES OF OPINION IN THE UN ON THE PROPOSALS. HE ALLEGEDLY SPECULATED THAT THESE DIFFERENCES COULD BE DUE TO THE COSTS OF THE WALDHEIM PLAM.
EDMONDSON

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